

# Tobacco Free Campus Policy

---



**Effective Date:** July 20, 2012

**Approved by:** Wayne Manning, VP Academic Affairs and Outreach

**Policy Owner:** Director of Human Resources

**Last Reviewed:** January 2, 2014

**Last Revised:** December 3, 2019

**Revision Approved by:** Julie Dinger, VP Academic and Student Affairs

---

## Purpose

The Oklahoma Smoking in Public Places and Indoor Workplaces Act ("Act"), 63 O.S. §§ 1- 1523; 1- 1525, et seq., requires Oklahoma Panhandle State University to adopt policies regulating smoking in facilities owned, leased, or under their control. The Act prohibits the possession of lighted tobacco in any indoor place used by or open to the public, public transportation, or any indoor workplace, except where specifically allowed by law. In accordance with 21 O.S. §1247, all campuses, buildings and grounds, or portions thereof, owned or operated by an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education may be designated as tobacco free, including smoking or smokeless tobacco, by the institution upon adoption of a policy stating the tobacco restrictions for the institution and an intent to enforce the penalty for violations as set forth in subsection M of 21 O.S. §1247.

It is the intent of Oklahoma Panhandle State University to promote the health, well-being and safety of all students, faculty, staff and visitors. As such, Oklahoma State University is designated as a tobacco-free environment. Tobacco use and the use of smoking preparations are prohibited in or on University property.

## Definitions

For the purpose of this tobacco free policy, the following words and phrases shall mean:

### **Tobacco and Smoking Preparations**

Includes all forms of tobacco, and is not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookahs, chewing tobacco, snuff and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking or both, and electronic cigarettes/vaping devices or any other product packaged for smoking or the simulation of smoking. Smoking preparations include but are not limited to hookahs, electronic cigarettes, vapor devices, herbal tobacco products, and simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products, including, but not limited to clove tobacco, bidis (beedies) and kreteks.

### **Tobacco use**

Includes smoking, chewing, dipping or any other use of tobacco products.

## Campuses

Includes any and all OPSU owned or maintained property, including but not limited to buildings, facilities, sidewalks, roadways, parking lots and grounds in Goodwell and Guymon. Campus includes all OPSU owned, leased or rented vehicles whether parked or not. Campuses may include any properties that are leased by OPSU or leased to third parties under long-term leases.

## Students

Includes but is not limited to all students enrolled in OPSU classes and/or classes held on campus, as defined above.

## Faculty and Staff

Includes, but is not limited to, all employees of OPSU in any capacity whether in a paid or unpaid (volunteer) status.

## Visitors

Includes, but is not limited to, guests, alumni, spectators, contractors, vendors, volunteers and anyone else providing any type of product or service to the university.

## Policy

Effective July 1, 2012: It shall be the policy of OPSU that all tobacco products, as defined above, be prohibited on the campuses of OPSU.

1. The use, sale or distribution of tobacco products is prohibited on OPSU campuses.
2. No OPSU publication shall accept any form of advertising of tobacco products.
3. OPSU shall provide services to students, faculty and staff who wish to participate with tobacco-use cessation programs through the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline. OPSU also shall make available appropriate educational materials concerning the harmful health consequences of tobacco use.
4. OPSU shall make available, through its website, a method of communication regarding tobacco use, prevention efforts on campus related to policy, prevention, and cessation.
5. New hires are informed of the tobacco-free work environment at the time of employment.
6. Compliance of this policy is the shared responsibility of all students, faculty and staff.

## Violations

Courtesy and consideration will be exercised when informing others unaware of and/or in disregard of this policy. It shall be a violation of this policy for any person to discriminate against any individual because the individual has opposed any practice made unlawful under this Policy, or because the individual has made a complaint or has assisted or participated in any manner in an investigation or proceeding under this Policy.

Violations of the policy shall be addressed as follows:

### Students

1. OPSU students residing in university housing reported for violating this policy shall be directed to the Residence Halls Coordinator. If the violation requires additional action, the complaint may be escalated to the Dean of Student Affairs.
2. All other OPSU students reported for violating this policy shall be directed to the Dean of Student Affairs.

### Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff shall be directed to the Dean of Student Affairs. If the violation requires additional action, the complaint may be escalated to the appropriate vice president.

## Visitors

Visitors reported for violating this policy shall be directed to the Dean of Student Affairs. The visitor may be asked to leave the university premises for failure to comply.

## Procedure

1. The designated university officer or designee will inform student, faculty, staff or visitor of the tobacco-free campus policy.
2. The designated university officer or designee will inform this policy is a cooperative effort encouraged by all students, faculty and staff.

## Penalties

When discipline is necessary, steps may include but not be limited to verbal warning, written warning, fines and/or suspension. This does not prohibit OPSU from pursuing other corrective discipline deemed appropriate.